

**But God Is Faithful** (1 Corinthians 10:13)

*God Interrupts Our Temptation*

**Proposition:** Every member of the family of God can have a first hand experience of the faithfulness of God in the thick of temptation by laying hold on the three powerful promises laid out in this verse before us today.

- I. Our Temptation is Collectively Common** (Vs 13a)
  - A. The Selection of Temptation is Common (Vs 13a)
  - B. The Strength of Temptation is Common (Vs 13a)
- II. Our Temptation is Completely Conquerable** (Vs 13b-d)
  - A. Conquerable by God's Dependability (Vs 13b-c)
  - B. Conquerable by God's Detour (Vs. 13d)
- III. Our Temptation is Carefully Constructive** (Vs. 13e)
  - A. Constructively Prescribed (Vs. 13e)
  - B. Constructively Proving (Vs. 13e)

**But God is Faithful (1 Cor 10:13)**  
God interrupts our Temptation. As a child I remember reading about the two hapless heroes Frank and Ernest in the funny pages. One particular comic strip placed the two in front of a priest where Frank asks "How come opportunity only knocks once, but temptation beats at my door every day." Frank seems to hit the nail on the head when it comes to temptation, the enticement to sin. Every day we are bombarded with enticements from the world the flesh and the devil to transgress against the law of God. That's why when I was being disciplined in Atlanta the second memory verse we hid in our heart was 1 Cor. 10:13. The promises contained in this verse are a hold fast in the midst of the strongest enticements that we will encounter in life. "But God is faithful" is the dynamic phrase that allows a route of escape thru the mightiest of temptations. Every member of God's family can have a first hand  
**I. Our Temptation is Collectively Common**  
We live in a world today where many who include in the wickedness of this world claim an exceptionalism or condition that makes them



But Paul levels the playing field. Temptation is universally

A. The Selection of Temptation is Common

"No Temptation" That pretty much covers them all. The first step to excluding your self in some sinful temptation is to justify it due to your particular susceptibility. You may glance around the church and think to yourself: "I bet I am the only one that has to battle with this particular vice and temptation" But the word of God says no! You are not a special case you are just as fitly and vile as every other sinner

B. The Strength of Temptation is Common

The phrase taken you means to seize or grab. Not only do we like to think that no one shares in the particular selection of temptation, but no one shares with us in its strength. This sinful desire doesn't pull at everyone else like it does you. As another writes: The way a tempter strikes The pull of the alcoholic to drunkenness or the homosexual to sexual perversion or the thief to his greed is no greater than the liar to his untruths or the gossip to their

II. Our Temptation is Completely Conquerable

But God. God interrupts our temptations. Martin Luther the great reformer said when I find myself assailed by temptation I berate him. I lay hold of some text of

1) ...a first hand experience of the faithfulness of God in the thick of temptation by laying hold on the three powerful promises laid out in this verse before us today.

2) ...every other sinner in the building.

3) ...the way a temptation strikes you, and grips you is not unusually strong. It may be strong, but it is no stronger than it has been in lives of others!

4) ...or the gossip to their tale baring. Thinking yourself a special case when it comes to the strength of temptation turn you over to a defeatist attitude. Take hear Christian! Your temptation is not unique to you. Victory can be had!

1) Psalms 103:13-14 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

2) ...five year-old girl that disobeyed her parents, and was sent to her room. After a while her mother came up to talk to her. With tears in her eyes, the little girl asked, "Why do we do bad things, mommy?" Her mom thought for a minute and said, "Well, sometimes the devil tells us to do bad things, and we listen to him. We need to listen to God instead." The little girl sobbed and said, "But God doesn't talk loud enough!" Well this text rings loud and clear! We have the promise of God's faithfulness at we face the strongest of enticements to sin.

3) ...that he had broken his arm in two places. The doctor's reply: "Well then, stay out of those places." God makes a bypass for temptation, take it. The lost sinner in the slave of sin. He cannot escape it. But Romans 6:12-14 *Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.* There is a way out. Take it!



the Bible which Jesus extends to me. 1 Cor 10:13 is extended.

### A. Conquerable by God's Dependability-

But God is faithful! The word here translated faithful here means: trustworthy, trustful, believable, sure + true! Our temptation is Conquerable because God is

dependable! Don't ever feel that the enticement to sin is greater than you can bear. God knows your threshold he knows your frame Ps 103:13-14 Like a father pitieth his

He will not allow you to face any temptation that you by his grace can not overcome. I heard a story about a little five year old

### B. Conquerable by God's Detour - The

proof of the faithfulness of God is found in the fact that he makes a way of escape. The word literally means a way out. An

escape route, a detour by passing the treacherous of temptation. A detour that Joseph took when he fled from the

sensual advances of Potiphar's wife. The by pass we are encouraged to in 13:4 in Ch

6:18 flee Fornication 2 Tim 2:22 Flee youthful lusts. Did you hear the one about the man

who went to the doctor complaining (3)

### III. Our Temptation is Carefully Constructed

You know one line of thought right about now would be: Why doesn't God prevent temptation as a whole! If God

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not remove temptations all together. Although

**A. Constructively Prescribed** - Now when we get around the subject of temptation to sin and the Sovereignty of God, we must be clear where the Bible is clear: James 1:13 <sup>sup</sup> God has prescribed temptation allows temptation in our lives because he uses these battles of sin to grow and mature us. Paul didn't say that God would not allow you to be tempted (period) but wouldn't allow a temptation too great. <sup>3</sup> Matthew 4:1, God's prescribed plan for Jesus was a temptation in the wilderness. For a particular reason. <sup>2</sup>

**B. Constructively Proving** - The reason for the tempting is the proving. God is not finding out how well you are holding up under temptation, but for you to see how well you stand up under temptation. The reality is that every time we are tempted we have a chance to bring God honor and glory by our obedience to God. The word translated temptation here is a word that has 2 basic meanings based on the context 1) entice towards sin 2) to test or to prove. One author wrote "Think of it this way"

**IV. Closing** - Have you ever been tempted to sin and you are right on the verge of that sin when there is an interruption, the phone rings, a knock at the door, someone enters the room. <sup>3</sup> There is the rebellion

- 1) Although you may not realize it, the temptation that you face is an important and constructive part of the Christian experience.
  - 2) James 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:
  - 3) Matthew 4:1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.
  - 4) ...Think of this way, when the devil tempts you to do wrong God is testing you to see whether you will do right! Nobody likes taking tests in school, but the tests show what we have learned! The tests show whether or not we are grasping the subject. The next time Satan places before you an enticing offer toward sin, remember that you have an opportunity to prove to the Father that you are learning what His Spirit is teaching!
  - 5) ...relief of that interruption. 1 Corinthians 10:13 says that in any circumstance no matter where we are God faithfully interrupts our temptation with an escape route. Take it.
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